

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 EB-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00 IO-13 ACDA-12 OES-07
/119 W

-----068128 101018Z /15

R 100715Z APR 78
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0367
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 PEKING 0955

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CH SW UR
SUBJ: SWEDISH FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT TO PRC

1. SUMMARY. IN HER TALKS WITH VICE PREMIER LI HSIEN-NIEN
AND FOREIGN MINISTER HUANG HUA APRIL 3-5 SWEDISH FOREIGN
MINISTER KARIN SODER WAS TOLD HUANG WOULD COME TO STOCKHOLM
ON VISIT THIS YEAR; GIVEN STANDARD LECTURE ON US APPEASEMENT
AND SOVIET THREAT; AND INFORMED, PRIOR TO HER TRIP
TO HANOI, THAT CHINA WOULD NOT INTERVENE IN OR MEDIATE
VIETNAMESE-CAMBODIAN CONFLICT. END SUMMARY.

2. VISIT OF SWEDISH FOREIGN MINISTER KARIN SODER TO
PEKING APRIL 2-6 WENT SMOOTHLY AND, ACCORDING TO THE
SWEDISH EMBASSY, ATTAINED THE MODEST OBJECTIVES OF
HELPING BALANCE POLITICALLY HIGH LEVEL SWEDISH VISITS
TO MOSCOW, MAKING A SMALL INTERNATIONAL SPLASH FOR THE
PRESENT GOVERNMENT AND PROMOTING TRADE AND TECHNICAL
COOPERATION. READING FROM THE EMBASSY'S REPORTING
MESSAGES THE SWEDISH CHARGE DESCRIBED THE FOLLOWING
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ASPECTS OF MRS. SODER'S TALKS WITH VICE PREMIER LI
HSIEN-NIEN AND FOREIGN MINISTER HUANG HUA.

3. BILATERAL RELATIONS. MRS. SODER HAD INVITED HUANG
HUA TO VISIT SWEDEN. HUANG ACCEPTED WITHOUT ANY COMMITMENT
AS TO TIMING. SODER RAISED THE SUBJECT AGAIN
WITH LI HSIEN-NIEN WHO ASSURED HER THAT HUANG WOULD

COME THIS YEAR. SWEDES ASSUME THAT HE WOULD COMBINE VISIT WITH TRIP TO NORWAY AMONG OTHER PLACES AROUND TIME OF UNGA.

4. CHARGE INSISTED THAT, DESPITE THE EXTREME SUSPICIONS VOICED BY THE SOVIETS, NEITHER SIDE HAD MENTIONED ARMS SALES. THIS HAD NOT BEEN A PROPER OCCASION TO RAISE SUCH A SUBJECT. SWEDISH CORPORATIONS, NOT FOREIGN MINISTERS, SELL ARMS, SAID THE CHARGE.

5. THERE HAD BEEN CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION WITH THE PRC SIDE MUCH INTERESTED IN FOLLOWING UP THE GENERAL TOPICS COVERED BY MRS. SODER. THERE HAD, HOWEVER, BEEN NO DEFINITE ANSWER TO A SWEDISH OFFER TO SEND SCIENTISTS TO CHINA FOR PERIODS OF UP TO THREE MONTHS.

6. INDOCHINA. HUANG HUA TOLD MRS. SODER THAT ALTHOUGH THE PRC HAD GIVEN VIETNAM OVER \$10 BILLION OF AID, MOSTLY GRANTS WITH A FEW INTEREST FREE LOANS, THE VIETNAMESE WERE STILL NOT OPEN AND FRANK WITH THEIR NORTHERN NEIGHBORS. THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BORDER CONFLICT BETWEEN CAMBODIA AND VIETNAM INTO A FULL FLEDGED WAR HAD NOT BEEN FORESEEN IN PEKING AND HAD COME AS A PROFOUNDLY NEGATIVE SURPRISE. HUANG COMPLETELY REJECTED ANY IDEA THAT THE PRC MIGHT BE ABLE TO MEDIATE A SOLUTION TO THE CONFLICT. THE SWEDES
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WERE SO STRUCK BY HUANG'S TURN OF PHRASE IN THIS REGARD THAT THEY REPORTED THE FOLLOWING VERBATIM IN ENGLISH IN THEIR REPORTING SUMMARY. HUANG SAID, "HAVING DEFEATED US AGGRESSION AND NOW BEING IN POSSESSION OF LARGE QUANTITIES OF US ARMS THE HEADS OF THE VIETNAMESE HAVE BECOME SWOLLEN. OVER A LONG PERIOD OF TIME THE VIETNAMESE HAVE HAD PLANS FOR ESTABLISHING AN INDOCHINESE FEDERATION. SOME PEOPLE HOPE THAT CHINA WILL COME FORWARD TO MEDIATE. WE DO NOT THINK SO. OUR INTERVENTION MIGHT MAKE IT EVEN MORE DIFFICULT TO SOLVE THE CONFLICT BECAUSE THEN THE OTHERS (I.E. THE SOVIETS) WOULD INTRNATIONALIZE THE CONFLICT AND COMPLICATE THE PROBLEM. WE WILL NOT GET INVOLVED."

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/119 W

-----068811 101018Z /15

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7. SOVIET UNION. CHARGE NOTED THAT MRS. SODER HAD NOT RECEIVED QUITE AS HEAVY A DOSE OF ANTI-SOVIETISM AS NORWEGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND HAD TWO WEEKS PREVIOUSLY. HE REASONED THAT THE PRC SAW NORWAY AS MUCH MORE SIGNIFICANT STRATEGICALLY THAN SWEDEN AND THE STIFFENING OF NORWEGIAN RESOLVE AS AN ACCORDINGLY MORE IMPORTANT TASK. HE SUSPECTED THIS WAS REASON WHY FRYDENLUND HAD MET TENG HSIAO-PING WHILE MRS. SODER HAD SEEN THE LOWER RANKING LI HSIEN-NIEN. NEVERTHELESS, PRC VIEWS OF THE USSR TOOK UP CONSIDERABLE PORTION OF SEVEN HOURS OF TALKS MRS. SODER HAD WITH TWO CHINESE LEADERS. HUANG HUA TOLD HER THAT HE COULD UNDERSTAND WHY WESTERN EUROPEANS DOUBT U.S. RESOLVE SO MUCH. HE RAISED THE "SONNENFELDT DOCTRINE" AND PRM-10 AS EXEMPLIFYING THE REASONS FOR WHICH WESTERN EUROPE WILL HAVE TO LEARN TO RELY ON ITS OWN FORCES. THERE IS A WAVE OF APPEASEMENT ROLLING OVER THE UNITED STATES, ACCORDING TO HUANG.

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8. LI HSIEN-NIEN TOLD HER THAT PRC RELATIONS WITH THE USSR WERE "VERY BAD" AND NO IMPROVEMENT WAS TO BE EXPECTED EVEN THOUGH CHINA WAS STRIVING TO MAINTAIN A CORRECT STATE-TO-STATE RELATIONSHIP. THERE WERE UNBRIDGEABLE IDEOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES. MOREOVER, THE SOVIETS INSISTED ON TAKING A PATRIARCHAL STANCE TOWARD THE PRC WHICH THE CHINESE COULD NOT ACCEPT. AS AN EXAMPLE OF THE DANGERS OF

SOVIET PENETRATION LI SAID THAT BOTH PENG TE-HUAI AND
LIN PIAO HAD BEEN WON OVER AND USED BY THE USSR.

9. DISARMAMENT. SWEDISH UNDEL HAD NOTED WHAT THEY
THOUGHT WAS UNUSUAL PRC WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE IN
DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT
AND MRS. SODER WAS ENCOURAGED TO RAISE SUBJECT WITH
CHINESE LEADERS. LI TOLD HER THAT ONLY THE
SUPERPOWERS COULD REALLY BRING ABOUT DISARMAMENT AND
THERE WAS NOTHING THAT THE SECOND OR THIRD WORLD
COULD DO TO INFLUENCE PROCESS. HUANG HUA HAD SAID
PREVIOUSLY THAT THE MAJOR TASK OF THE SSD WOULD BE
TO PERSUADE THE SUPERPOWERS TO DISARM AND TO GET THE
US AND USSR TO PLEDGE NOT TO USE NUCLEAR WEAPONS
AGAINST NON-NUCLEAR NATIONS OR IN NUCLEAR FREE
ZONES. HUANG DESCRIBED SALT AND MBFR AS "NONSENSE."

10. CHINESE LEADERS' VIEWS ON SINO-US RELATIONS
REPORTED SEPTEL.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PEKING00955
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780153-1050
Format: TEL
From: PEKING
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780474/aaaaccls.tel
Line Count: 205
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4f6920b3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3020627
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SWEDISH FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT TO PRC
TAGS: OVIP, CH, SW, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4f6920b3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014